

<p style="text-align: center;">Atlantic City, New Jersey Brownfields Assessment Demonstration Pilot</p> <p>U. S. EPA, Region 2 290 Broadway New York, NY</p> <p style="text-align: right;">April 2001</p>	
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Program Information

The EPA Brownfields Economic Redevelopment Initiative is designed to empower States, communities, and other stakeholders in economic redevelopment to work together in a timely manner to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield is an abandoned, idled, or under-used industrial or commercial facility where expansion or redevelopment is complicated by real or perceived contamination. Since 1995, EPA has funded more than 300 Brownfields Assessment Demonstration Pilots, at up to \$200,000 each, enabling localities to clarify environmental contamination issues in order to facilitate redevelopment. Pilot funds are for site assessment, reuse planning and related community involvement. EPA Region 2 provides direct support to the States, Tribes, counties, municipalities, and communities of New York, New Jersey, Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands as they continue to seek new methods to promote site assessment, environmental cleanup, and redevelopment.

I. Overview

In July 1998, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) selected Atlantic City, New Jersey as a Brownfields Assessment Demonstration Pilot. With a population of 38,000, Atlantic City is located in southern New Jersey on Absecon Island, a barrier island off the Atlantic Coast. Founded in 1852, the City thrived for the next hundred years as a popular vacation spot on the east coast. Shell fishing, bottling, glass and candy manufacturing, and tourism were the significant industries.

Due to over-fishing and the effects of pollution, the marina-related industries began to decline in the 1960's. At around the same time, Atlantic City began to lose favor as a vacation spot due in part to the increased availability of affordable air travel. As the Atlantic City economy declined, many of the luxury hotels and homes fell into decay, commercial and industrial businesses closed, and there was an exodus of long-time residents to more affluent areas.

Despite the City's thriving casino industry, it still has abandoned residential, commercial, and industrial sites, many of which are thought to be contaminated. The goal of Atlantic City's Brownfields Pilot is to generate a brownfields redevelopment program that utilizes the state, local and federal funds and resources that are available to the City. Initially, the Atlantic City Pilot will target several brownfield sites.

II. Brownfields Pilot Progress

Implementation Strategy

Atlantic City already has a history of brownfields redevelopment projects that have been financed by the Casino Reinvestment Development Authority (CRDA). As part of this Pilot, the City will establish a Brownfields Task Force (BTF). The BTF will be comprised of municipal professionals, agency coordinators, technical experts, and members of special interest groups. The BTF's responsibilities will include identification and prioritization of brownfield sites, evaluation and development of remedial action alternatives, implementation of remedial action work plans, and consideration of redevelopment plans for the selected sites.

Preparation of community outreach materials as well as the development of both community involvement plans and education programs are activities also included in the Pilot.

Community Involvement

Various community programs and initiatives are in place in the City, including the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, the HOPE 6 Program, and other neighborhood-based housing and community infrastructure projects initiated by the City and the CRDA. These programs and initiatives provide a structure for citizen participation in the brownfields program. Through these programs, the BTF will address key issues which include: equal protection, public health and liability, creation of jobs, and career training and development through the community education process. The BTF will provide the public with periodic updates via informational handouts and newsletters that announce scheduled meetings, report the BTF's progress, and present major issues that require public input. The City will also develop a community education program that will inform the public about brownfields activities.

II. Brownfields Site Activities

Site Inventory

The Pilot plans to establish an inventory of all the brownfields sites within the City.

Site Selection

The BTF will be involved in the site selection process, which will take place once the site inventory is complete.

Site Assessment and Reuse Planning

The Pilot intends to target several sites for assessment and redevelopment activities.

IV. Measures of Success

Number of Properties Estimated in Brownfields Pilot Area: 124

For the entire Pilot area, the number of properties/parcels which have been identified by the Pilot as brownfields. The Pilot area includes the entire jurisdiction of the Pilot (e.g., the entire City of Chicago or the State of Minnesota), not just the specific area(s) that the Pilot has defined as target areas.

Number of Properties Reported to be Contained in Pilot Inventories: 124

For the entire Pilot area, the number of properties/parcels which have been included in an inventory of brownfields properties/parcels. Types of brownfields inventories include: lists, spreadsheets, and databases (geographic information systems or other forms). These inventories may include lists such as a foreclosure list of abandoned industrial sites; a state list of no-further actions sites, etc.

Number of Properties Reported to be Targeted by Pilot: 22

For the entire Pilot area, the number of brownfields properties/parcels the Pilot reports it is "targeting", or at which the Pilot says it will conduct, is conducting, or has conducted activities such as assessment, cleanup planning, facilitation of redevelopment, community outreach, etc.

V. Non-Site Specific Funding Leveraged

Funding that has been leveraged under the pilot program, but cannot be attributed to any one site.

A. Non-Site Specific Funding Leveraged for Assessment

Funded by: ☐ Local (City) ☐ Local (County) ☐ Private ☐ State ☐ Other Federal

Amount Funded: \$ 50,000

Additional information concerning funding:

B. Non-Site Specific Funding Leveraged for Cleanup

Funded by: ☐ Local (City) ☐ Local (County) ☐ Private ☐ State ☐ Other Federal

Amount Funded: \$

Additional information concerning funding:

C. Non-Site Specific Funding Leveraged for Redevelopment

Funded by: ☐ Local (City) ☐ Local (County) ☐ Private ☐ State ☐ Other Federal

Amount Funded: \$ 1,500,000

Additional information concerning funding:

VI. Current Activities

The Pilot will initially select one site for assessment activities.

VII. Contact Information

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For more information on EPA's Brownfields Initiative visit EPA's website at:

National Website <http://www.epa.gov/swerosps/bf>

Regional Website <http://www.epa.gov/r02earth/superfnd/brownfld/bfmainpg.htm>